10/656,390 June 23, 2006

Reply to Office Action of:

April 4, 2006

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 13 and 14 are pending in the above-identified application. Claims 1-12 and 15-23 were cancelled.

Claim 13 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In particular, claim 13 was rejected because the terms "the both" lacked antecedent basis.

Claim 13 has been amended to recite, "a step of calculating the similarity measure of said object and an object having a learning feature by using data of said learning feature learned and stored preliminarily and said object feature." The Examiner states at page 2, item 6 of the Office Action that "Claim 13 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph." Accordingly, claim 13, as amended, is now in condition for allowance.

Claim 14 depends from claim 13. Thus, claim 14 is allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 13.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 13 and 14 as the claims are now in condition for allowance.

espectfully submitted,

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MAT-7914US1

DDF/fp

Dated: <u>June 23, 2006</u>

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The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. **18-0350** of any fees associated with this communication.

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